JS 44 (Rev. 04/21)

# CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS			DEFENDANT	S		
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Richmond County, NY  (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)			Robert and M	Robert and Maria Johnson, h/w and  Gregory Johnson  County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Monroe County, PA  (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)  NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.		
			Y County of Resident			
(c) Attorneys (F)rm Name,	Address and Talanhous Numbe	ri	Attorneys (If Know)	n)		
		"	1	7		
Robin J. Gray, E	esq. Wyomissing, PA 196	10				
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only)	I. CITIZENSHIP OF  (For Diversity Cases Onl.)	PRINCIPAL PARTIES	Place an "X" in One Box for Plainty nd One Box for Defendant)	
1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)		Citizen of This State	PTF DEF  1 Incorporated or Pri of Business In TI		
2 U.S. Government Defendant	Diversity     (Indicate Citizensh)	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citizen of Another State	2 Incorporated and P of Business In A		
			Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3 Foreign Nation	6 6	
IV. NATURE OF SUI			PORESTORE PER LA TOR	Click here for: Nature of S	uit Code Descriptions.  OTHER STATUTES	
CONTRACT 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJURY	625 Drug Related Seizure	BANKRUPTCY 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	375 False Claims Act	
120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgmen 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise  REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product Liability 320 Assault, Libel &	Other:	LABOR  710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Management Relations 740 Railway Labor Act 751 Family and Medical Leave Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act  IMMIGRATION 462 Naturalization Applicat 465 Other Immigration Actions	28 USC 157  INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS  820 Copyrights 830 Patent 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application 840 Trademark 880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016  SOCIAL SECURITY  861 HIA (1395ff) 862 Black Lung (923) 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) 864 SSID Title XVI 865 RSI (405(g))  FEDERAL TAX SUITS 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a))  400 State Reapportionment 410 Antitrust 430 Banks and Banking 450 Commerce 460 Deportation 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Consumer Credit (15 USC 1681 or 1692) 485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act 490 Cable/Sat TV 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange 890 Other Statutory Actions 891 Agricultural Acts 893 Environmental Matters 895 Freedom of Information Act 896 Arbitration 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes	
	emoved from 3	Appellate Court	Reopened Ano			
VI. CAUSE OF ACTI	ON Brief description of co Personal Injury case v	ause:	iling (Do not cite jurisdictional	sidence and owned by Father of m		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	IS A CLASS ACTION 23, F.R.Cv.P.	DEMAND S Over \$75,000 150, 0		if demanded in complaint:	
VIII. RELATED CAS IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE Ra	briffs	DOCKET NUMBER		
DATE 09/26/2023		SIGNATURE OF ATTOR	RNEY OF RECORD			
RECEIPT # A	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP	JUDGE	MAG. JUI	DGE	

05/2023

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

#### DESIGNATION FORM

(to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to the appropriate calendar)

ace of Accident, Incident or Transaction: 470 Eggov	t Neola Rd., Say Toroby, PA Cmonroe
Case Number:Judge:	Date Terminated
Civil cases are deemed related when Yes is answered to any of	
<ol> <li>Is this case related to property included in an earlier nu previously terminated action in this court?</li> <li>Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow or Pending or within one year previously terminated action.</li> <li>Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a Numbered case pending or within one year previously.</li> <li>Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social by the same individual?</li> </ol>	out of the same transaction as a prior suit on in this court?  a patent already in suit or any earlier terminated action of this court?  Yes No
	ot related to any now pending or within one year previously terminated
ction in this court except as note above.	Pg PA58725
Attorney-at-Law Must sig	Attorney 1.D. # (if applicable)
2. FELA 3. Jones Act-Personal Injury 4. Antitrust 5. Wage and Hour Class Action/Collective Action 6. Patent 7. Copyright/Trademark 8. Employment 9. Labor-Management Relations 10. Civil Rights 11. Habeas Corpus 12. Securities Cases 13. Social Security Review Cases 14. Qui Tam Cases 15. All Other Federal Question Cases. (Please specify):	2. Airplane Personal Injury 3. Assault, Defamation 4. Marine Personal Injury 5. Motor Vehicle Personal Injury 6. Other Personal Injury (Please specify); Snake By 7. Products Liability 8. All Other Diversity Cases: (Please specify)
Robn J. Cray, counsel of record or prose	TION CERTIFICATION or remove the case from eligibility for arbitration) e plaintiff, do hereby certify: the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action erest and costs:  PA S 725

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

E. J. a minor, by IRINA MAYMAN

Mother

Plaintiff

CIVIL ACTION - LAW

V.

No.

ROBERT and MARIA JOHNSON

h/w

GREGORY JOHNSON

Defendants

Jury Trial Demanded

### CIVIL COMPLAINT

#### JURISDICTION

This Court has original and exclusive jurisdiction over this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1332 (c). The United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in which the cause of action arose and is pending, and thus, is the proper venue for this action.

#### PARTIES

- E.J., a minor, through his Mother, Irina Mayman, is a minor and the grandson of Defendants, Robert and Maria Johnson and son of Gregory Johnson. The minor E.J. and his Mother reside at 362 Getz Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10312.
- Defendants, Robert and Maria Johnson, are adult individuals, who reside at 470
   Effort Neola Road, Saylorsburg, PA 18353.
- Defendant Gregory Johnson, is an adult individual, who resides at 470 Effort Neola Road, Saylorsburg, PA 18353.

#### BACKGROUND

- 4. E.J.'s Mother and Defendant Johnson are husband and wife but are separated.
- As part of a child custody order, Defendant Gregory Johnson had partial custody of E.J. and his brother in the summers, including the Summer of 2021.
- The minor child E.J. was born on 08/11/2013 and was turning 8 years old 08/11/2021.
- Defendant Gregory Johnson engages in a hobby/small business of selling venomous snakes and has a license to do so.
- 8. These snakes are kept on Defendant Robert and Maria Johnson's property.
- On or about August 2021, Defendant Gregory Johnson gave his son EJ a snake to hold.
- 10. The snake wrapped its tail around EJ's wrist and bit EJ with its fangs.
- 11. When the snake bit EJ, it did not let go, but buried its fang in the minor child's right index finger.
- 12. The minor child became extremely upset and started to bleed.
- Defendant Gregory Johnson stopped the bleeding and also administered antivenom to the child's wound.
- 14. Defendant Gregory Johnson made the minor child EJ swear on the bible that he would not tell anyone about this incident, and especially not to tell Mother, Irina Mayman.
- 15. The minor child did not tell his mother about the snake bite until February of 2022.
  The minor child also identified the snake from a photo from Defendant Gregory
  Johnson's snake catalog kept for his business.

- 16. In the period between August 2021 and February 2022, the minor child began to show signs of increased anxiety, fear, nightmares and problems in school, that he never had prior to the snake bite incident.
- 17. As the minor child's problems continued to manifest, Mother became more and more concerned that there was something wrong with her child.
- 18. Finally, the minor child, EJ could no longer hold in what happened at Father's home and broke down and told Mother.
- Immediately upon hearing what happened to EJ and how he was so afraid and so anxious, Mother took EJ to his pediatrician.
- 20. After being seen by the pediatrician, Mother took EJ to a neurologist due to EJ's nightmares and fear about being bitten by a snake,
- 21. EJ was evaluated by a psychologist due to his high anxiety, fear and inability to cope at school due to his fear and anxiety.
- 22. The psychologist, Virginia Boga, conducted the evaluation and concluded that EJ suffered from significant anxiety and attention issues related to the trauma of the snake bite and due to the fact that he had to withhold the information of the snake bite for so long due to Defendant Gregory Johnson's demands of the child.
- 23. The evaluation also recommended that EJ have an IEP so help EJ work through his anxiety, PTSD and fear due to the snake bite and having to withhold the information of the snake bite. (See Psychological evaluation attached hereto as Exhibit "A").
- 24. EJ has been in counseling since February 2022 and is currently seeing a pediatric psychiatrist who specializes with trauma with children. (See IEP attached hereto as Exhibit "B" and Notes from Steven Dyckman, MD attached hereto as Exhibit "C").

- 25. The medical bills for EJ's counseling thus far amount to over \$30,000.00 and continue to accumulate.
- 26. Defendants all knew that Defendant Gregory Johnson bought and sold venomous snakes. (See photos of Defendant's Snakes attached hereto as Exhibit "D").
- 27. Defendants Robert and Maria Johnson permitted their son, Defendant Gregory Johnson to keep the snakes on their property and to allow the minor child to have access to these venomous snakes.
- 28. Defendant Gregory Johnson knew that the snake that he gave to EJ to hold was venomous and could bite him.
- 29. Despite this knowledge of the danger venomous snakes could cause to a young child, Defendant Gregory Johnson negligently gave a venomous snake to his young son to hold.
- 30. After the snake bite, all Defendants covered up the fact the minor child was bitten by the snake and instructed the minor child not to tell anyone, especially his Mother, Irina Mayman.
- 31. After the snake bite, Defendant Gregory Johnson, made the minor child swear on the Bible that he would never tell anyone about the snake bite, especially the minor child's Mother.
- 32. Defendant Gregory Johnson's mandate that the minor child not disclose what happened with the snake has caused severe emotional harm to the child, along with the mental harm and anguish caused by the actual snake bite.

- 33. Due to the negligence, recklessness and carelessness of Defendants, the minor child, EJ has suffered and will continue to suffer PTSD, mental anguish, anxiety, fear and severe emotional distress for the foreseeable future.
- 34. Due to the negligence, recklessness and carelessness of Defendants, as described above, the minor child will continue to accumulate medical bills and charges well into the foreseeable future.

#### COUNT I

# NEGLIGENCE DEFENDANTS ROBERT AND MARIA JOHNSON

- 35. Plaintiff hereby incorporates paragraphs 1 through 34 as if fully set forth at length herein.
- 36. Defendants Robert and Maria Johnson negligently permitted their son, Gregory Johnson, to keep venomous snakes on their property with full knowledge that the minor children (their grandchildren), including EJ, would have access to those snakes.
- 37. Defendants Robert and Maria Johnson permitted their son, Defendant Gregory Johnson, to show and permitted the minor child, EJ to hold the venomous snakes, although these snakes are very dangerous and could harm any individual, including the minor child, EJ.
- 38. Defendants Robert and Maria Johnson then supported Defendant Gregory Johnson's decision to have the minor child EJ swear on the Bible that he would never tell anyone, including his Mother, about the snake bite, causing possible irreparable harm to the minor child.

- 39. As a result of Defendants Robert and Maria Johnson's negligence, recklessness and carelessness, the minor child, EJ suffered severe and permanent emotional distress and harm that could require many years of psychiatric counseling as well as continued IEP to help the minor child continue with his education.
- 40. As a result of Defendants Robert and Maria Johnson's negligence, recklessness and carelessness, the minor child, EJ will continue to accumulate medical bills and copays for his psychological and psychiatric treatment.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff EJ, through his Mother, Irina Mayman, hereby requests this Honorable Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor and against Defendants in an amount in excess of \$50,000.00 plus interest fees and costs and any additional relief the court deems equitable and just.

#### COUNT I

# NEGLIGENCE DEFENDANT GREGORY JOHNSON

- 41. Plaintiff hereby incorporates paragraphs 1 through 40 as if fully set forth at length herein.
- 42. Defendant Gregory Johnson negligently kept venomous snakes on his parents (Defendants) property with full knowledge that the minor including EJ, would have access to those snakes.
- 43. Defendant Gregory Johnson negligently to showed and permitted the minor child, EJ to hold the venomous snakes, knowing that these snakes are very dangerous and could harm any individual, including the minor child, EJ.
- 44. Defendant Gregory Johnson negligently permitted his son, EJ to hold a venomous snake knowing the snake could bite his son.

45. Defendant Gregory Johnson negligently and knowingly told the minor child, EJ to withhold the information about the snake bite and made the minor child swear on the Bible that he would never tell anyone, especially Mother Irina Mayman, about the snake bite incident

46. As a result of Defendant Gregory Johnson's negligence, recklessness and carelessness, the minor child, EJ suffered severe and permanent emotional distress and harm that could require many years of psychiatric counseling as well as continued IEP to help the minor child continue with his education.

47. As a result of Defendant Gregory Johnson's negligence, recklessness and carelessness, the minor child, EJ will continue to accumulate medical bills and copays for his psychological and psychiatric treatment.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff EJ, through his Mother, Irina Mayman, hereby requests this Honorable Court enter judgment in Plaintiff's favor and against Defendants in an amount in excess of \$50,000.00 plus interest fees and costs and any additional relief the court deems equitable and just.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin J. Gray, Ssq.

Robin J. Gray, Esq.